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EXAMINER

BAUM, RONALD

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2136

DATE MAILED: 11/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/019,013

Applicant(s)

UEDA ET AL.

Examiner

Ronald Baum

Art Unit

2136

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s)- \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn-from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-14 are pending for examination.
2. Claims 1-14 remain rejected.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 13 recites the limitation "... said manager can select ..." in reference to claim 12.

There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. For the sake of applying art, the examiner assumes the applicant refers to the mobile terminal operational interface.

Correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Abraham et al, U.S. Patent 5,983,270.

4. As per claim 1; "An access right setting apparatus which can set access right information for limiting utilization of a resource with respect to said resource whose utilization can be limited by setting an access right, characterized by:

access request information acceptance means for

accepting access request information in which information for

requiring the access right setting to said resource is described [Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element (i.e., apparatus) of a network (node) with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, of which the setup of policy for the filtering/access control configuration (setting of access rights), clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.];

access request information judgment means for

judging a content of said access request information

accepted by said access request information acceptance means [Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element (i.e., apparatus) of a network (node) with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, of which the setup of policy for the filtering/access control configuration (setting of access rights), and subsequent use of said policy after being accepted/stored (i.e., post judging as related to policy content), clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.]; and

access request information setting means for

setting the content of said access request information

judged by said access request information judgment means as

said access right information [Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element (i.e., apparatus) of a network (node) with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, of which the setup of policy for the filtering/access control configuration (setting and associated storage of access rights), and subsequent use of said policy after being accepted/stored (i.e., post judging as related to policy content), clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.].”.

5. As per claim 2; “An access right setting apparatus which can set access right information for limiting utilization of a resource with respect to said resource whose utilization can be limited by setting an access right, characterized by:

access request information acquirement asking means for

asking for acquirement of access request information in which information for requiring the access right setting to said resource is described [Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element (i.e., apparatus) of a network (node) with associated GUI for user/operator interaction of which the GUI queuing of the user interactively for the setup of policy for the filtering/access control configuration (setting of access rights), clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.];

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access request information acceptance means for

acquiring said access request information designated by

said access request information acquirement asking means [Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element (i.e., apparatus) of a network (node) with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, of which the setup of policy for the filtering/access control configuration (setting of access rights), clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.];

access request information judgment means for

judging enable/disable of a content of said access request information

acquired by said access request information acceptance means [Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element (i.e., apparatus) of a network (node) with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, of which the setup of policy for the filtering/access control configuration (setting of access rights), and subsequent use of said policy after being accepted/stored (i.e., post judging as related to policy content), clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.]; and

access request information setting means for

setting the content of said access request information

judged by said access request information judgment means as

said access right information [Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element (i.e., apparatus) of a network (node) with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, of which the setup of policy for the filtering/access control configuration (setting and associated storage of access rights), and subsequent use of said policy after being accepted/stored (i.e., post judging as related to policy content), clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner:].”

6. As per claim 3; “A manager terminal connected to an access right setting apparatus which can set access right information for limiting utilization of a resource with respect to said resource whose utilization can be limited by setting an access right via a network, characterized by:

access request information acceptance means for

accepting access request information in which information for

requiring the access right setting to said resource described [Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element (i.e., apparatus and associated client/server configuration inclusive of a manager terminal) of a network (node) with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, of which the setup of policy for the filtering/access control configuration (setting

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of access rights), clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.];

access request information judgment means for

judging a content of said access request information

accepted by said access request information acceptance means [Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element (i.e., apparatus and associated client/server configuration inclusive of a manager terminal) of a network (node) with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, of which the setup of policy for the filtering/access control configuration (setting of access rights), and subsequent use of said policy after being accepted/stored (i.e., post judging as related to policy content), clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.]; and

access request information setting means for

setting the content of said access request information

judged by said access request information judgment means as

said access right information [Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element (i.e., apparatus and associated client/server configuration inclusive of a manager terminal) of a network (node) with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, of which the setup of policy for the filtering/access control configuration



(setting and associated storage of access rights), and subsequent use of said policy after being accepted/stored (i.e., post judging as related to policy content), clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.],

said manager terminal comprising:

access request information acquirement asking means for

asking for acquirement of the access request information in which the information for

requiring the access right setting to said resource is described [Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element (i.e., apparatus and associated client/server configuration inclusive of a manager terminal) of a network (node) with associated GUI for user/operator interaction of which the GUI queuing of the user interactively for the setup of policy for the filtering/access control configuration (setting of access rights), clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.];

access request information judgment means for

receiving said access request information from said access right setting apparatus, and

judging enable/disable of the content of said access request information [Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element (i.e.,

apparatus and associated client/server configuration inclusive of a manager terminal) of a network (node) with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, of which the setup of policy for the filtering/access control configuration (setting of access rights), and subsequent use of said policy after being accepted/stored (i.e., post judging as related to policy content and resulting enable/disable aspects of the request/content access authorization), clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.]; and

access request information automatic judgment means for

~~automatically performing the enable/disable judgment [Abstract; figures 3-15, 17-~~ 19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element (i.e., apparatus and associated client/server configuration inclusive of a manager terminal) of a network (node) with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, of which the setup of policy for the filtering/access control configuration (setting of access rights), and subsequent use of said policy after being accepted/stored (i.e., post judging, clearly automated via the processing element functional execution of software, as related to policy content and resulting enable/disable aspects of the request/content access authorization), clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.]”.

7. As per claim 4; “A manager terminal connected to an access right setting apparatus which can set access right information for limiting utilization of a resource with respect to said resource whose utilization can be limited by setting an access right via a network, characterized by:

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access request information acquirement asking means for

asking for acquirement of access request information in which information for requiring the access right setting to said resource is described [Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element (i.e., apparatus and associated client/server configuration inclusive of a manager terminal) of a network (node) with associated GUI for user/operator interaction of which the GUI queuing of the user interactively for the setup of policy for the filtering/access-control-configuration (setting of access rights), clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.];

access request information acceptance means for

acquiring said access request information designated by

said access request information acquirement asking means [Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element (i.e., apparatus and associated client/server configuration inclusive of a manager terminal) of a network (node) with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, of which the setup of policy for the filtering/access control configuration (setting of access rights), clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.];

access request information judgment means for

judging enable/disable of a content of said access request information

acquired by said access request information acceptance means [Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element (i.e., apparatus and associated client/server configuration inclusive of a manager terminal) of a network (node) with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, of which the setup of policy for the filtering/access control configuration (setting of access rights), and subsequent use of said policy after being accepted/stored (i.e., post judging as related to policy content), clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly-interpreted by the examiner.]; and

access request information setting means for

setting the content of said access request information

judged by said access request information judgment means as

said access right information [Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element (i.e., apparatus and associated client/server configuration inclusive of a manager terminal) of a network (node) with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, of which the setup of policy for the filtering/access control configuration (setting and associated storage of access rights), and subsequent use of said policy after being accepted/stored (i.e., post judging as related to policy content), clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.],

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said manager terminal comprising:

access request information acquirement asking means for

asking for acquirement of the access request information in which the information  
for

requiring the access right setting to said resource is described [Abstract,  
figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the  
use of a network management program operating on a processing element (i.e.,  
apparatus and associated client/server configuration inclusive of a manager  
terminal) of a network (node) with associated GUI for user/operator interaction of  
which the GUI queuing of the user interactively for the setup of policy for the  
filtering/access control configuration (setting of access rights), clearly  
encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.];

access request information judgment means for

receiving said access request information from said access right setting apparatus,  
and

judging enable/disable of the content of said access request information [Abstract,  
figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a  
network management program operating on a processing element (i.e., apparatus and  
associated client/server configuration inclusive of a manager terminal) of a network  
(node) with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, of which the setup of policy for  
the filtering/access control configuration (setting of access rights), and subsequent use of  
said policy after being accepted/stored (i.e., post judging as related to policy content and

resulting enable/disable aspects of the request/content access authorization), clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.]; and access request information automatic judgment means for

automatically performing the enable/disable judgment [Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element (i.e., apparatus and associated client/server configuration inclusive of a manager terminal) of a network (node) with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, of which the setup of policy for the filtering/access control configuration (setting of access rights), and subsequent use of said policy after being accepted/stored (i.e., post judging, clearly automated via the processing element functional execution of software, as related to policy content and resulting enable/disable aspects of the request/content access authorization), clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.].”.

8. Claim 5 *additionally recites* the limitation that; “The access right setting apparatus according to claim 1, characterized by

user identifier registration means for

issuing an identifier for uniquely specifying a user,

necessary for performing user authentication to make possible

connection for the user who cannot connect to

said access right setting apparatus for accessing said resource, and

registering the identifier as a part of said access request information.”.

The teachings of Abraham et al suggest such limitations (i.e., Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element of a network with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, of which the setup of policy via administrative level functions to additionally assign rights (i.e., figures 5-9 and associated descriptions) inclusive of 'who, where, what, and the how' of network resources access control, clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.).

9. Claim 6 ~~additionally recites the limitation that~~, "The access right setting apparatus according to claim 1, characterized by

access request information acceptance means which can

accept said access request information designated by

an identifier of classification of said resource,

not by an identifier for uniquely specifying said resource with respect to designation of said resource as an object of the access right setting described in said access request information."

The teachings of Abraham et al suggest such limitations (i.e., Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element of a network with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, of which the setup of policy via administrative level functions to additionally assign rights (i.e., figures 5-9 and associated descriptions) associated with file type extensions (i.e., an identifier of classification of said resource; col. 11, lines 12-53) versus simply specifying a file

resource by file name (and associated location) per se, clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.).

10. Claim 7 *additionally recites* the limitation that; “The manager terminal according to claim 3, characterized by

access object resource selection means by which a manager can

select said resource as an object of utilization from a plurality of resources, when

said resource as an object of the access right setting described in said access request

information-is-

designated not by an identifier for uniquely specifying said resource,

but by an identifier of classification of said resource with respect to

designation of said resource as the object of the access right setting described in

said access request information, and when there are a plurality of corresponding

said resources.”.

The teachings of Abraham et al suggest such limitations (i.e., Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element of a network with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, of which the setup of policy via administrative level functions to additionally assign rights (i.e., figures 5-9 and associated descriptions) associated with file type extensions (i.e., an identifier of classification of said object resource; col. 11, lines 12-53) versus simply specifying a file object resource by file name (and associated location) per se, clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.).



11. Claim 8 *additionally recites* the limitation that; “The manager terminal according to any one of claim 3, characterized by

access request information change means which can

change the content described in said access request information received from

said access right setting apparatus.”.

The teachings of Abraham et al suggest such limitations (i.e., Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element of a network with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.).

12. Claim 9 *additionally recites* the limitation that; “The access right setting apparatus according to any one of claim 1, characterized by

an open resource information storage device which can

store information open to an access originator of said resource among

information of not an identifier for uniquely specifying said resource,

but an identifier of classification of said resource with respect to

designation of said resource as the object of the access right setting described in

said access request information.”.

The teachings of Abraham et al suggest such limitations (i.e., Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element of a network with associated GUI for user/operator

interaction, of which the setup of policy via administrative level functions to additionally assign rights (i.e., figures 5-9 and associated descriptions) and associated storage of said rights, clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.).

13. Claim 10 *additionally recites* the limitation that, “The access right setting apparatus according to any one of claim 1, characterized by

display information preparation means which can

convert the content described in said access request information to a visually and easily understandable natural language ~~in order to accurately notify said manager of said~~ access request information.”.

The teachings of Abraham et al suggest such limitations (i.e., Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element of a network with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, of which the rendering of said interactions input/output results, clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.).

14. Claim 11 *additionally recites* the limitation that, “The access right setting apparatus according to any one of claim 1, characterized by

access request information authentication means for

authenticating said access request information in order to confirm that said access request information is not prepared by an illicit action represented by falsification or pretense.”.

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The teachings of Abraham et al suggest such limitations (i.e., Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element of a network with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, of which the authentication of users (i.e., password, etc.) from the defined user level to administrative rights level of authorization, clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.).

15. Claim 12 *additionally recites* the limitation that; “The access right setting apparatus according to claim 1, characterized by:

request information transfer means for a mobile terminal for

transferring the content described in said access request information to

a mobile terminal so that

the content is grasped in a remote area; and

request information judgment means for the mobile terminal for

performing the enable/disable judgment of said access request information from

said mobile terminal.”.

The teachings of Abraham et al suggest such limitations (i.e., Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element of a network, either on the same network, or associated inter/intranet whereas the node is remote/mobile (i.e., ‘... Internet has recently seen explosive growth by virtue of its ability to link computers located throughout the world ...’) relative to a

request (i.e., the client/server aspect), with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.).

16. Claim 13 *additionally recites* the limitation that; “The access right setting apparatus according to claim 12, characterized by

object resource selection means for the mobile terminal for

performing selection of the resource as said access object performed by the access

object resource selection means by which

said manager can select said resource as the object of the utilization from  
said plurality of resources from said mobile terminal,

when said resource as the object of the access right setting

described in said access request information is

designated not by an identifier for uniquely specifying said  
resource, but by an identifier of classification of said resource with  
respect to designation of said resource as the object of the access  
right setting described in said access request information, and  
when there are a plurality of corresponding said resources.”.

The teachings of Abraham et al suggest such limitations (i.e., Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element of a network with associated GUI for user/operator interaction, of which the setup of policy via administrative level functions to additionally assign rights (i.e., figures 5-9 and associated descriptions) associated with file type extensions (i.e., an

identifier of classification of said object resource; col. 11, lines 12-53) versus simply specifying a file object resource by file name (and associated location) per se, clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.).

17. Claim 14 *additionally recites* the limitation that, “The access right setting apparatus according to claim 12, characterized by

request information change means for the mobile terminal for

performing the change of the content described in

~~said access request information from said mobile terminal.”.~~

The teachings of Abraham et al suggest such limitations (i.e., Abstract, figures 3-15, 17-19, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36 and associated descriptions, whereas the use of a network management program operating on a processing element of a network, either on the same network, or associated inter/intranet whereas the node is remote/mobile (i.e., ‘... Internet has recently seen explosive growth by virtue of its ability to link computers located throughout the world ...’) relative to a request (i.e., the client/server aspect), with associated GUI for user/operator interaction (i.e., ‘...change of the content described ...’), clearly encompasses the claimed limitations as broadly interpreted by the examiner.).

*Conclusion*


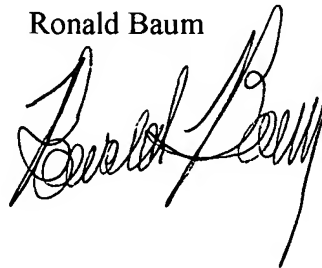
18. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from examiner should be directed to Ronald Baum, whose telephone number is (571) 272-3861, and whose unofficial Fax number is (571) 273-3861. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh, can be reached at (571) 272-3795. The Fax number for the organization where this application is assigned is 571-273-8300.

~~Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent-~~  
Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. For more information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Patent Examiner

Ronald Baum



AYAZ SHEIKH  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100